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Grammatical stylistics of scientific and technical translation in the aspect of Theory of Grounding

Abstract

Translation stylistics is an essential part of translation theory. Based on W. Labov and J. Waletzky Theory of Grounding (foreground and background), the article analyzes important issues and challenges of scientific and technical translation from Russian into Chinese and from Chinese into Russian, namely, transformation of paratactic clauses into a simple complex sentence, transformation of the active voice into a passive voice and vice versa, variability of Russian verbal nouns translation into Chinese as nouns or verbs. This mismatch can be classified as foregrounding of different grammatical patterns typical for each language. The core idea of mastering grammatical stylistics of scientific and technical translation is in skillful foreground and background elements manipulation to overcome morphological and syntactic differences between Chinese and Russian, release from formal restrictions of the source language, use the advantages of the target language and create a scientific and technical text sample with grammatical stylistics suitable for the language of translation.

Keywords: scientific and technical translation, differences between languages, Theory of Grounding, grammatical stylistics, transformation

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